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Nixon-Bugging

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Former President Richard Nixon says there is "evidence to the effect" that U.S. intelligence successfully bugged Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's car in Moscow some years ago.

Nixon was asked about CIA bugging during ^{1/2} 1 hours of recent interviews that will be broadcast by CBS on "'60 Minutes'" Sunday night and "'American Parade'" Tuesday night.

The subject of listening devices came up when Nixon speculated that the Russians had hidden television cameras in foreigners' bedrooms "because they often used them for purposes of blackmail."

"We've never gotten that sophisticated," he said.

Asked if the "State Department or the CIA didn't have Brezhnev bugged in Blair House or at Camp David or even at the Casa Pacifica," Nixon replied emphatically: "No, they didn't. No sir, I wouldn't have allowed it."

Is he sure he would have known about it? he was asked.

"Oh, yes, I think so. Well, maybe not, but I think so."

He said it is "quite well known that both in this country and in the Soviet Union we attempt to bug each others' embassies and we attempt to bug a lot of other embassies in this country, and we should, because that's expected to be done."

"As a matter of fact," he said, "there's also evidence to the effect that Brezhnev's car was bugged."

The interviewer asked: "By us?"

"By us, that's right," Nixon replied. "Not here in this country, but in the Soviet Union, and one of the reasons the release of the Pentagon Papers caused great concern in the CIA was that one of the items in the Pentagon Papers could only have come from the fact that we had Brezhnev's car bugged."